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From: B. Craig Killough

Date: February 21, 2002

To: John Gillon, Office of Petitions

Fax No.: (703) 308-6916

Our File No. 474.003/Div1

Unnumbered divisional of Serial Number 09/383,908.

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PETITIONS OFFICE

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Petition; Preliminary Amendment and Credit Card

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Ridgeway, Jr., et al.

Group Art Unit: 3653

Application No.: Currently unnumbered
continuation of 09/383,908

Examiner: J. Jillions

Filed: 08/26/1999

Title: PACKAGING SPOOL AND PROCESS
FOR PRODUCING SAME

Attorney Docket No.: 474.003/Div.1

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Office of Petitions
Washington, D.C. 20231

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PETITION UNDER 37 CFR §1.182**FEB 22 2002**

Dear Sir:

Applicant petitions the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks as follows:

1. This is a Petition to convert a divisional application inadvertently filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d), to an application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(b).
2. A Notice of Allowance in Application Serial Number 09/383,908 was mailed May 21 2001, indicating 19 claims to be allowable. On August 17, 2001, the Applicant paid the issue fee for the 19 claims by transmitting the required fee and Form PTOL-85B, which indicated that 19 were allowed and that prosecution on the merits was closed.
3. On August 21, 2001, the Applicant filed an application that was inadvertently filed with a request to treat the application as a "divisional" application under 37 CFR 1.53(d), and the filing fee was paid. The box on the form indicating that the prior application was to be abandoned under 37 CFR §1.53(d)(2) as of the filing date of

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this continued prosecution application was not checked, since no such abandonment was intended.

4. The application filed August 21, 2001 was transmitted with a preliminary amendment canceling claims 1-21 and introducing claims 22-41, a total of 20 Claims.
5. A Notice of Allowance for these 20 Claims was mailed December 6, 2001, and the issue fee was due to be paid by March 6, 2002.
6. On January 29, 2002, U.S. Patent Number 6,341,745 issued with the 20 claims filed on August 21, 2001. It appears that the issue fee paid August 17, 2001 was applied to the 20 claims which were filed later on August 21, 2001, and pursuant to which a Notice of Allowance was mailed even later, on December 6, 2001.
7. It is apparent from the record Applicant did not intend to abandon the 19 Claims first allowed. It is also apparent that Applicant intended for the claims filed on August 21, 2001 to be considered in addition to, and not in place of, the prior 19 claims, notwithstanding the indication of filing a divisional under 37 CFR 1.53(d).
8. Applicant hereby petitions and requests that the application filed on August 21, 2001 be treated as a continuation under 37 CFR §1.53(b) of Application Serial Number 09/383,908, and that this application be assigned a new serial number. It is requested that the Notice of Allowance dated December 6, 2001 (which could be construed as applying to the application filed August 21, 2001) be withdrawn, and that the Preliminary Amendment which is attached hereto, and which is filed herewith, be entered in the new application file.

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Respectfully submitted,


B. Craig Killough
Attorney for Applicant
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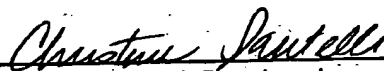
Dated: February 22, 2002

Serial Number:
Art Unit:

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3653

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I hereby certify that this Petition Under 37 C.F.R. §1.182, along with a credit card authorization form, is being filed via facsimile to **John Gillon, Office of Petitions at (703) 308-6916**, addressed to Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Office of Petitions, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 22nd day of February, 2002.



Christine Santelli, Paralegal
to B. CRAIG KILLOUGH
Attorney for Applicant
134 Meeting Street
Charleston, SC 29401
(843) 577-7700

Declaration Received: _____ Petition: _____ Preliminary: _____
Actual Filing Form: _____

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): RIDGEWAY, et al.	Group Art Unit: 3653
ApplicationNo.: Currently Unnumbered Continuation of Serial Number 09/383,908	Examiner: J. M. Jillions
Filed: 8/21/2001	
Title: PACKAGING SPOOL AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING SAME	
Attorney Docket No.: 474.003	

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Office of Petitions
Washington, D.C. 20231
Filed Via Facsimile

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following claims:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following claims:

1. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage, comprising:
a first sidewall ;
a second sidewall;
a partition located between said first sidewall and said second sidewall, with one end of said partition being positioned adjacent to said first sidewall, and an opposite end of said partition being positioned adjacent to said second sidewall, said partition having an interior void which is filled with a flowable material, wherein said flowable material sets within said

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partition to form a solid core, and said flowable material sets and adheres to said first sidewall and to said second sidewall and connects said first sidewall to said second sidewall, wherein an entire perimeter of said first sidewall extends beyond an outside perimeter of said solid core.

2. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 1, wherein a continuous void is formed which extends through said first sidewall, said core and said second sidewall.
3. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 1, wherein said first sidewall is generally circular and is generally concentric with said partition, wherein said outside perimeter of said partition is generally circular.
4. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 2, wherein said first sidewall is generally circular and is generally concentric with said partition, wherein said outside perimeter of said partition is generally circular.
5. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 1, wherein said partition is formed of paper.

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6. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 3, wherein said first sidewall is formed of paper
7. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 1, wherein said first sidewall is formed of corrugated material.
8. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 5, wherein said first sidewall is formed of corrugated paper.
9. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 6, wherein said first sidewall is formed of corrugated paper.
10. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 1, wherein said first sidewall is formed of wood.
11. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 1, wherein said first sidewall is formed of Styrofoam.

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12. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 1, wherein said flowable material is polyurethane foam.
13. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 2, wherein said flowable material is polyurethane foam.
14. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 3, wherein said flowable material is polyurethane foam.
15. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 4, wherein said flowable material is polyurethane foam.
16. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 5, wherein said flowable material is polyurethane foam.
17. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 6, wherein said flowable material is polyurethane foam.
18. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 7, wherein said flowable material is polyurethane foam.
19. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 1, wherein said partition is formed of an outer ring and

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an inner ring, and wherein said void which is filled with said flowable material is present between said outer ring and said inner ring.

REMARKS

The Claims herein were previously examined as Claims 3-21 of Serial Number 09/383,908, and were deemed to be in condition for allowance. These Claims were unintentionally cancelled from Serial Number 09/383,908. It is respectfully requested that these claims be entered in the continuation of Serial Number 09/383,908, and that any prior claims be cancelled.

It is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-19 are in condition for allowance. Review and allowance at the earliest possible date is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSIONS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

1. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage, comprising:
a first sidewall ;
a second sidewall;
a partition located between said first sidewall and said second sidewall,
with one end of said partition being positioned adjacent to said first
sidewall, and an opposite end of said partition being positioned adjacent to
said second sidewall, said partition having an interior void which is filled
with a flowable material, wherein said flowable material sets within said
partition to form a solid core, and said flowable material sets and adheres
to said first sidewall and to said second sidewall and connects said first
sidewall to said second sidewall, wherein an entire perimeter of said first
sidewall extends beyond an outside perimeter of said solid core.
2. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as
described in Claim 1, wherein a continuous void is formed which extends
through said first sidewall, said core and said second sidewall.
3. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as
described in Claim 1, wherein said first sidewall is generally circular and is
generally concentric with said partition, wherein said outside perimeter of
said partition is generally circular.

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4. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 2, wherein said first sidewall is generally circular and is generally concentric with said partition, wherein said outside perimeter of said partition is generally circular.
5. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 1, wherein said partition is formed of paper.
6. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 3, wherein said first sidewall is formed of paper
7. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 1, wherein said first sidewall is formed of corrugated material.
8. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 5, wherein said first sidewall is formed of corrugated paper.

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9. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 6, wherein said first sidewall is formed of corrugated paper.
10. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 1, wherein said first sidewall is formed of wood.
11. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 1, wherein said first sidewall is formed of Styrofoam.
12. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 1, wherein said flowable material is polyurethane foam.
13. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 2, wherein said flowable material is polyurethane foam.
14. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 3, wherein said flowable material is polyurethane foam.
15. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 4, wherein said flowable material is polyurethane foam.
16. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 5, wherein said flowable material is polyurethane foam.

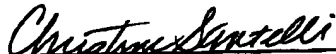
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17. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 6, wherein said flowable material is polyurethane foam.
18. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 7, wherein said flowable material is polyurethane foam.
19. A reel around which a product is wound for transportation and storage as described in Claim 1, wherein said partition is formed of an outer ring and an inner ring, and wherein said void which is filled with said flowable material is present between said outer ring and said inner ring.

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Art Unit: 3653

CERTIFICATE OF FILING VIA FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this Preliminary Amendment is being filed via facsimile to John Gillon, Office of Petitions at (703) 308-6916, addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Office of Petitions, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 22nd day of February, 2002.



Christine Santelli, Paralegal
to B. CRAIG KILLOUGH
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